

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Alain FOUERE et al.

Group Art Unit : Not Yet Assigned

Appl. No. : 10/787,170

Examiner : Not Yet Assigned

Filed : February 27, 2004

Confirmation No. : 4885

For : LACHRYMAL PLUGS AND METHODS FOR SETTING SAME

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir :

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. §1.56 and §§1.97-1.98, Applicants hereby submit a copy of an International Search Report from the French Patent Office that was mailed on March 12, 2003, with respect to patent family member French Patent Application No. PCT/FR02/02878, in which the French Patent Examiner cited the following documents:

U.S. Patent No. 5,830,171 to WALLACE, which issued on November 3, 1998, the French Examiner indicated that column 3, line 60 to column 4, line 49 and figures 6-8 were considered to be particularly pertinent "X" to claims 1, 2, 9, 11, and 12, particularly pertinent "Y" to claim 10, and technological background "A" to claims 3-5, 7, 10, 13, and 14 of the French Application; and

U.S. Patent No. 6,254,562 to FOUERE, which issued on July 3, 2001, the French Examiner indicated that column 2, lines 43-46 were considered to be particularly

pertinent "Y" to claim 10, and technological background "A" to claim 1 of the French Application.

Applicants also bring to the Examiner's attention the following documents:

U.S. Patent No. 5,334,137 to FREEMAN, which issued on August 2, 1994.

Applicants note that this document is mentioned on page 2 of the specification of the present application; and

International Patent Application Publication No. WO 98/33461, which was published on August 6, 1998. Applicants note that this document is mentioned on page 2 of the specification of the present application.

Further to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office's decision to waive the requirement under 37 C.F.R. §1.98 (a)(2)(i), copies of the U.S. patents are not enclosed herewith. However, if any copies are needed, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned.


Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider the above material and cite the same. A copy of the above-noted foreign document is attached and all of the documents are listed on the attached PTO-1449 Form. The Examiner is requested to initial the appropriate spaces on the attached Form and to return a copy of the Form to the Applicants with the next official communication in the present application.

Applicants note that an Office Action on the merits has not issued in the present application, and thus no fee is believed necessary to ensure consideration of the submitted material. However, if an Office Action on the merits has issued and is crossing this statement in the mail, the undersigned hereby authorizes the Commissioner to charge any

fee necessary for the consideration of this statement, including any payment under 37 C.F.R. §1.17 (p) to Deposit Account No. 19-0089.

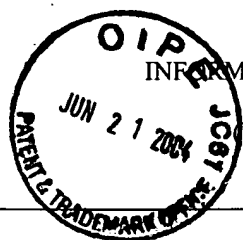
Should the Examiner have any questions, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number.

Respectfully Submitted,
Alain FOUERE et al.


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June 11, 2004
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FORM PTO-1449

U.S. Department of Commerce
Patent and Trademark OfficeAtty. Docket No.
P24980Application No.
10/787, 170INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
BY APPLICANT

(Use several sheets if necessary)

Applicant
Alain FOUERE et alFiling Date
February 27, 2004Group
Unknown

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	5 8 3 0 1 7 1	11/03/98	WALLACE			
	6 2 5 4 5 6 2	07/03/01	FOUERE			
	5 3 3 4 1 3 7	08/02/94	FREEMAN			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES NO
9 8 / 3 3 4 6 1	08/06/98	W.I.P.O			

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

*EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.